

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00397 021741Z

61
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-11 /096 W
----- 091026

R 021700Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7459
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USUN 0396

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 0397

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, GB, MO, MR, SS
SUBJ: GABON'S POSITION ON SAHARA

1. IN INTERVIEW GRANTED MARCH 1 TO GABONESE TV, PRESIDENT BONGO REAFFIRMED TOTAL GOG SUPPORT FOR MOROCCAN-MAURITANIAN POSITION IN FORMER SPANISH SAHARA.

2. RESPONDING TO QUESTION ABOUT POLISARIO DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, BONGO SAID "THERE IS NO QUESTION OF OUR CONSIDERING SAHARA AS A REPUBLIC. WE ARE TOLD THAT POLISARIO IS A LIBERATION MOVEMENT. LIBERATION OF WHAT? ARE WE TO RECOGNIZE HISSEN HABRE BECAUSE HE MAKES NOISE? WERE WE TO RECOGNIZE POLISARIO AS A LIBERATION MOVEMENT, WOULD THIS MEAN THAT IN CASES OF COUNTRIES WHOSE UNITY IS INCOMPLETE AND WHO HAVE EXTERNAL OPPONENTS, THAT WE ARE TO RECOGNIZE THESE OPPONENTS WHEN THEY CREATE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS? WHERE WOULD THIS LEAVE UNITY? INSTEAD OF SPEAKING OF OAU, WE WOULD HAVE TO SPEAK OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00397 021741Z

THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN DIVISION. WE SUPPORT AND

WILL SUPPORT, WHATEVER HAPPENS, MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA.
I DO NOT KNOW THIS POLISARIO."

3. PRESIDENT ADDED THAT GOG REPRESENTATIVE
AT OAU CM HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE GABONESE POSITION
EQUALLY CLEAR, AND TO DEFEND GABON STRONGLY AGAINST
CRITICISMS REPORTEDLY LEVELED AGAINST GOG POLICY IN
COURSE OF ADDIS SESSION. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, POLICIES, SPEECHES, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LIBREV00397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760079-0955
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603105/aaaadoez.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by fisherem>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2004 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GABON'S POSITION ON SAHARA
TAGS: PFOR, GB, MO, MR, SS, POLISARIO, (BONGO, ALBERT BERNARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006